

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 34-44 are pending. Applicants note with appreciation that claims 9, 10 and 42 are allowed.

Applicants request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants request withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Claims 1 and 34 had previously been amended to recite, in part, a step wherein resin is forced into the perforations formed in the reinforcement panel without the use of heat, thereby bonding the reinforcement layer to the reinforcement panel. The claims 1 and 34 are further amended herein to recite a method of manufacturing a composite sheet consisting essentially of the enumerated steps further described therein.

In the outstanding office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 11-12, 34-41 and 43-44 under 35 U.S.C. §35 U.S.C. § 112(a), first paragraph, stating that the limitation "without the use of heat" does not appear to have support in the original disclosure.

Applicants respectfully submit that the specification contains a full and adequate disclosure of such process step. First, the specification, and in particular, Figure 2, shows a mechanism that is used to practice the recited method. Figure 2 does not show any means for heating the resin, and as such, it is understood by those skilled in the art that there is no heat applied.

Second, the specification teaches, at pages 3 – 4, that the resin is liquid and is a quick acting material that sets up within about 20 minutes. It is submitted that those skilled in the art recognize that such "quick acting" description refers to materials that do not have any heat applied thereto.

Third, the specification, at page 10, line 18, discloses an embodiment of a polyester /epoxy blend resin that flows into holes. It is submitted that those skilled in the art recognize that such material is flowable at ambient temperatures.

Fourth, the specification, at page 9, line 16, describes an embodiment where the reinforcement layer hardens. It is submitted that those skilled in the art

recognize that such material is hardened at ambient temperatures since there is no discussion of heat being applied.

Fifth, the specification, at page 6, line 11, does describe using heat when necessary for a FRP which is "hot pressed." It is submitted that those skilled in the art recognize that when a "hot pressing" step is described as one embodiment, then the other steps are carried out at ambient temperatures.

Finally, the specification fully and adequately mentions heat when necessary to distinguish from ambient temperatures. In particular, the specification, at page 9, line 27 through page 10, line 13, describes the effects of detrimental heat on the composite sheet.

Therefore, at least for these reasons the specification fully and adequately describes the present invention as set forth in the claims; the amendments to the independent claims 1 and 34 are being made for the sake of good order and do not extend the present invention beyond the embodiments as fully described in the specification and claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants have shown that the claims are in proper form for allowance, and the invention, as described in the specification and claims 1-12 and 34-44, is conveyed in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record, and allowance of all claims.